



AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1950.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:-

R. S. Wathes.	M.A. (Cantab) L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Medical Officer of Health.
J. H. Ellis.	Chief Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B. Certificate of R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.
W. Higham.	District Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of R.S.A. (Scotland) Certificate of R.S.A. (Scotland) for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.
D. Grantley-Smith.	District Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1950.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Greenhill and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to submit my fifth Annual Report, covering the work of my Department during the year ending 31st December, 1950.

Last year I thought that my Annual Report would probably have been my last, and that before now you would have enjoyed the services of a full time Medical Officer of Health, but it seems that I underestimated the time needed to bring about the changes forecast. I shall, therefore, make no prophecy this year, but wait patiently on events, hoping that I may yet be spared to carry out my duties to the District Council for a little longer.

I would wish, once again, to express my thanks both to the District Council for their help and confidence, and to the Staff of my Department for their continued goodwill and co-operation. These are no idle words and I want it to be known that my work as an Officer of this Council has always been made pleasant by the kindness of all with whom it brings me in contact.


I remain,
Your obedient servant,

R. S. WATHES.

Medical Officer of Health.

The Court,
AXBRIDGE,
Somerset.

August, 1951.



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STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1950.

(The figures in brackets are those of 1949).

Area of District.	90,551 acres.
Number of inhabited houses.	7,475 (7,411)
Rateable Value.	£191,864 (£186,974)
Population: 1931 Census.	22,076
Registrar-General's estimate for 1950	
Mid-year Home Population	25,600 (25,340)

LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	174	(215)	176	(190)	350 (405)
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	(12)	<u>5</u>	(10)	<u>9</u> (22)
	<u>178</u>	(227)	<u>181</u>	(200)	<u>359</u> (427)

BIRTH RATE: 14.02 (16.85)

STILL BIRTHS:

	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	1	(5)	5	(4)	6 (9)
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
					<u>6</u> (9)

STILL BIRTH RATE: (per 1,000 total births) 16.71 (21.1)

DEATHS:

	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>
	158	(152)	166	(176)	<u>324</u> (328)

DEATH RATE: 12.66 (12.94)

VITAL STATISTICS.

REGISTERED BIRTHS.

After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Registrar-General credited the District with 359 live births, for 1950, 178 were males and 181 females. Of these 9 were illegitimate (4 males and 5 females). The registered number of still births was 6 (1 male and 5 females) all of which were legitimate.

The birth rate for 1950 was 14.02 per 1,000 of the population, which was lower than for the country as a whole (15.8).

DEATHS.

324 deaths were registered to the District during the year. Of these 158 were males and 166 females. The death rate for 1950 was 12.66 per 1,000 of the population which was higher than for the country as a whole (11.6).

The following tables show the causes of death in the Axbridge Rural District, 1950 and 1949.

All causes ... Total 324.

	<u>Totals:</u>		<u>1950.</u>		<u>1949.</u>	
			<u>324</u>		<u>328</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	158	166	152	176		
Tuberculosis of respiratory system.	5	3	5	-		
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	-	-	1	2		
Syphilitic diseases.	-	-	-	-		
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-		
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-		
Meningococcal infections.	-	-	-	1		
Acute poliomyelitis.	2	-	1	-		
Measles.	-	-	1	-		
Other infective & parasitic diseases.	1	-	-	-		
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	2	3	2	5		
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	6	2	3	-		
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	3	1	7		
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	1	-	2		
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	16	12	17	10		
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	-	-	-		
Diabetes.	-	2	-	4		
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	17	21	16	35		
Coronary disease, angina pectoris.	25	12	52	58		
Hypertension with heart disease.	3	5				
Other heart disease.	29	66				
Other circulatory disease.	9	6	2	5		
Influenza.	1	2	-	2		
Pneumonia.	1	3	6	5		
Bronchitis.	9	6	6	1		
Other diseases of respiratory system.	2	2	3	-		
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	1	-	1		
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	1	1	-		
Nephritis and nephrosis.	4	-	7	10		
Hyperplasia of prostate.	2	-	-	-		
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	1	-	-		
Congenital malformations.	2	1	4	7		
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	11	10	17	14		
Motor vehicle accidents.	7	-	-	1		
All other accidents.	-	2	5	5		
Suicide.	3	1	2	1		
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-	-		

Special causes (included in all other causes above)

Small-pox - - - -

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1950.
(The figures in brackets are those of 1949).

Ages at Death in Years:-

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Under 1	3 (8)	3 (10)	6 (18)
1 to 9	1 (3)	1 (1)	2 (4)
10 to 24	4 (7)	1 (4)	5 (11)
25 to 44	5 (5)	10 (5)	15 (10)
45 to 64	37 (37)	21 (23)	58 (60)
65 to 69	18 (22)	17 (14)	35 (36)
	68 (82)	53 (57)	121 (139)
70 to 74	29 (14)	24 (25)	53 (39)
75 to 79	27 (19)	33 (36)	60 (55)
80 to 84	22 (18)	23 (27)	45 (45)
85 to 89	7 (15)	18 (22)	25 (37)
90 to 94	4 (3)	15 (9)	19 (12)
95 to 99	- (1)	1 (-)	1 (1)
	89 (70)	114 (119)	203 (189)
	157 (152)	167 (176)	324 (328)

The number of deaths in the four quarters of the year were:-

First quarter	94 (97)
Second quarter	74 (87)
Third quarter	73 (66)
Fourth quarter	83 (78)

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, registered during the year was 6 (18) as follows:-

Under 1 week	5 (7)
1 - 4 weeks	- (3)
1 - 6 months	- (4)
6 - 12 months	1 (4)

These 6 deaths represent an infant mortality rate of 16.71 (42.15) for all infants per 1,000 live births.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

As is well known, this Rural District is favoured by an excellent water supply, which seems well able to continue adequately through long spells of dry weather. Accordant to official wishes, I again present the notes of the state of our water supply, together with the statistics. More details of extensions to mains etc., are available in the Surveyor's Report.

Every Parish in our District enjoys the benefits of a piped water supply. This supply is owned and maintained entirely by the District Council with the exception of that to Kewstoke, which is supplied from the Borough of Weston-s-Mare.

There are certain isolated or scattered dwellings which are dependent on private means of water supply, either wells or rain-water. The former are usually quite satisfactory. It is, of course, hoped to supply all dwellings in the Rural District from the public mains as soon as possible, and extensions of the mains have been carried out in some parishes.

The Public Health Department collects samples of water from the mains at points throughout the District, and submits them monthly for examination at the Public Health Laboratory. The reports thereon have been satisfactory throughout the year, with very few exceptions. Tests for plumbo-solvency have all been negative.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Dwelling houses.</u>	<u>Dwelling-houses receiving a supply from Public Water Mains.</u>	<u>Population supplied from Public Water Mains.</u>	
			<u>Direct to house.</u>	<u>Stand- pipe.</u>
Axbridge	277	274	1,099	10
Badgworth	113	112	401	3
Banwell	605	570	1,878	-
Berrow	117	114	352	-
Blagdon	316	307	1,055	-
Bleadon	213	194	588	-
Brean	96	94	296	-
Brent Knoll	243	228	751	-
Burnham Without	92	92	289	-
Burrington	139	102	345	-
Butcombe	58	45	152	-
Chapel Allerton	80	78	293	-
Cheddar	806	785	2,694	5
Churchill	363	303	1,020	2
Compton Bishop	127	107	449	-
Congresbury	403	339	1,201	-
East Brent	221	220	797	3
Hutton	174	147	493	16
Kewstoke	222	188	532	-
Locking	85	71	178	-
Loxton	52	42	151	-
Lympsham	157	157	536	16
Mark	255	254	953	9
Puxton	49	46	201	-
Shipham	189	176	548	3
Weare	135	132	440	-
Wedmore	717	627	2,352	26
Wick-St-Lawrence	51	47	197	-
Winscombe	670	660	2,394	3
Wrington	450	376	1,452	-

* Weston-s-Mare Borough Council Water Supply Area.

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In county districts this problem is tackled in many and various ways, but I feel that I am safe in saying that any nuisance that may arise in our District is always dealt with adequately, and that such nuisances are not very common.

Our larger villages have their own public sewers and disposal plants, which are kept in repair by the District Council, though it must be admitted that renewals and extensions are in some cases overdue. During the present difficult times it is not wise to hope for any expensive new schemes, but it is encouraging to note that the schemes for Axbridge and Cross have been approved, and work is likely to commence soon, while the scheme for Congresbury and district is under consideration by the Ministry of Local Government.

A large number of dwellings including some Council Housing sites, depend on cesspools since it is obviously not possible to connect them with public sewers. There is no objection to this practice provided that proper attention is given, and that cesspools are emptied at regular intervals. The Public Health Department maintains one tanker vehicle for this purpose, and the charges are moderate.

3. HOUSING.

The housing problem in the District is still very large. Many more houses are needed in almost every part of the District to provide new homes both for those living in insanitary conditions and for those who are living in lodgings or with relations.

At the end of 1950 there were 561 applicants on the list waiting for Council Houses. Of these 194 had been awarded priority points for Public Health or other special reasons. At the end of 1949 the figure was 729 applicants of which 241 had priority points. The comparison of other figures is interesting - I give the 1949 figure in brackets:-

Number of houses owned by the Council (all occupied)
929 (875).

Number of houses (occupied) held on requisition - 49 (54).

Number of hutments occupied - 58 (64).

Number of families rehoused during the year - 98 (115).

It is again encouraging to note a fall in the number of hutments occupied, though I would wish to see this figure shrink to zero.

I am satisfied that the 'Points Scheme', which is so often unfairly criticised, works reasonably well, and is as far as possible to everyone. Doubtless minor alterations will be needed from time to time, but I do not recommend any major change in the Council's method of selecting new tenants. I have continued the practice of visiting, in company with the Housing Officer, every applicant high on the list just before an allocation of new houses is made.

4. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There is no especial comment under this heading. The following table shows the infectious diseases notified during the year with the 1949 figures in brackets.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total cases notified.</u>		<u>Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.</u>		<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Small-pox	-	(-)	-	(-)	- (-)
Scarlet Fever	42	(45)	7	(14)	- (-)
Diphtheria	-	(-)	-	(-)	- (-)
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	-	(1)	-	(1)	- (-)
Measles	22	(459)	1	(1)	- (1)
Whooping Cough	123	(27)	1	(-)	- (-)
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	(-)	-	(-)	- (-)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	(2)	-	(1)	- (-)
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-	(-)	-	(-)	- (-)
Dysentery	1	(-)	-	(-)	- (-)
Malaria	-	(-)	-	(-)	- (-)
Pneumonia	22	(22)	-	(-)	- (-)
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	(2)	3	(2)	1 (1)
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	(-)	1	(-)	- (-)
Erysipelas	1	(6)	-	(-)	- (-)
	216	(564)	13	(19)	1 (2)

School premises and 54 rooms were disinfected following cases of infectious diseases during the year.

Cases of personal infection are now very infrequent.

5. TUBERCULOSIS.

		<u>Total cases notified.</u>		<u>Total Deaths.</u>
	Pulmonary	26	(28)	7 (5)
<u>Tuberculosis</u> -	Non-Pulmonary	6	(9)	

Morbidity Rate for Tuberculosis.

Total cases notified 32 (37). Estimated Population 25,600 (25,340).

Rate = 1.25 (1.46) Incidence per 1,000 per year.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Number of Cases on Register at 31st December, 1950.	56 (47)	39 (36)	12 (11)	14 (13)	68 (58)	53 (49)

6. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following table shows the progress of immunisation against diphtheria:-

	<u>Immunisation completed during 1950.</u>	
	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5 - 15 years.</u>
Number of children	200 (340)	34 (62)

A total of 3,260 (3,804) children under the age of 15 years have completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1950, against an estimated mid-year population 1950 of 5,770 (5,647).

7. HOSPITALS, CLINICS ETC.

In December, 1949, Axbridge Isolation Hospital was closed for the admission of cases of ordinary infectious diseases, and certain alterations were commenced. For several years the number of cases at the Isolation Hospital has been very few. Infectious Diseases from this District will be accommodated at Ham Green Hospital, Bristol, and our hospital will shortly re-open under the name of Shute Shelf Hospital for the reception of cases of Tuberculosis.

Ilex Lodge Hospital, Axbridge, has continued its useful function of providing care for elderly and infirm patients.

St. Michaels Home, Cheddar, and Compton Bishop Children's Hospital, both for Tuberculosis are fully occupied.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Axbridge, Cheddar, Winscombe, Banwell, Hutton, Churchill and Wrington.

8. CONCLUSION.

No especial event marks the year of 1950; the work is never spectacular, and only rarely exciting, but the general Public Health standard in our District remains at a very high level.

I ask the Council to accept my Report with favour.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1950.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Greenhill and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the Year 1950.

HOUSING.

It is apparent that the slow progress of the reconditioning of unfit houses, which it was hoped would quicken with the general post-war recovery, will, in view of the re-armament programme, continue at a rate not above the present level for some time.

In view of the limited amount of the licensing "ceiling" it is essential that the licences issued should ensure the maximum advantage to the general standard of housing in the District. It is felt that the balance which has been struck between maintenance repairs and reconditioning work has achieved this object.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:-

Estimated number of dwelling-houses to be surveyed (i.e. all those of £16 rateable value and under excluding private dwelling-houses erected since 1930 and Council Houses)	4,055	
Number of properties surveyed (total to 31st December, 1950.)	2,737	67.5%
Number of properties found to be satisfactory in all respects. ... (Category 1)	290	10.6%
Number of properties found to have minor defects. ... (Category 2)	421	15.4%
Number of properties requiring repair or structural alteration. ... (Category 3)	1,742	63.6%
Number of properties unfit for habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable cost. ... (Category 5)	284	10.4%

OVERCROWDING.

On the 31st December, 1950, there were 8 cases of statutory overcrowding on the register. The number of these cases is showing a steady reduction.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

A further increase in the number of licensed camping sites is recorded this year. The heavy concentration of moveable dwellings in the Brean and Berrow area is causing concern, both from the point of view of foul water drainage and the excessive demand on the public water supply. Brean and Berrow is regarded as a natural camping area for people from the Midlands. However, the Midlands is a populous area and existing services at Brean and Berrow cannot cope with unlimited demands. The time has come to formulate, in conjunction with the Town Planning Authority, a definite policy with regard to camping in these Parishes.

Number of camping sites licensed during the year.	49
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Total number of moveable dwellings permitted on these sites...	1,078
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FOOD PREMISES.

Work in connection with premises where food is sold or is prepared for sale is unspectacular. It is rarely necessary to resort to formal action. The food trader in the District are a very reasonable section of the community and a great deal has been accomplished by persuasion.

ICE CREAM.

In no branch of Public Health work has there been greater progress during the last few years than in the hygiene of the manufacture of ice-cream. Ice cream is now invariably prepared under the highest grade dairy conditions.

Number of premises registered for the manufacture
of ice-cream. ... 5 { Hot mix 2 }
 { Cold mix 3 }

Number of premises registered for the sale
of ice-cream. 85

Summary of results of ice-cream samples taken.

	<u>Grades.</u>				<u>Total.</u>
	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>	
Ice-cream manufactured within the District ...	41.	3.	-	3.	47
Ice-cream manufactured outside the District ...	118.	27.	16.	13.	174
	<u>159.</u>	<u>30.</u>	<u>16.</u>	<u>16.</u>	<u>221</u>

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Now that the District Council's responsibilities in this field are limited to Milk Distributors it has been possible to devote more attention to milk retailers' premises. All dairies have been brought up to the standard laid down in the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 with the exception of one, whose occupier has prepared plans for building a new dairy and is trying to obtain a building licence. Five dairy premises were reconditioned or reconstructed during the year.

Of the 104 samples taken for examination for Tubercle Bacilli, none proved positive. Of the 45 samples taken of Tuberculin Tested milk 37 were satisfactory and 8 were unsatisfactory.

Total number of Registered Milk Distributors.	24
Total number of Registered Dairy Premises.	10
Number of Tuberculin Tested Milk Dealers licensed.	18
Number of Accredited Milk Dealers licensed.	-
Number of Heat-treated Milk Dealers licensed.	5

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

Demands on the services of the cesspool emptier are increasing steadily, as the following figures indicate. The position is being carefully watched, as it may become necessary to recommend the Council to consider the provision of a second tanker vehicle.

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Total number of cesspools and settlement tanks cleansed during the year.	266	328	383	531

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The amount of refuse collected is increasing each year. The re-organised refuse collection scheme which was put into operation last year has been able to cope with this year's substantially increased tonnage without difficulty. The provision of improved means of refuse disposal is the next step to be taken and arrangements to institute controlled tipping are already in hand.

As was anticipated last year, the salvage of waste paper has again become imperative. The Council's decision not to drop paper salvage whilst prices were in the doldrums proved fruitful when the market recovered. The full effect of this recovery will not be felt until 1951.

Estimated total amount of Refuse collected during the year.	4,208 Tons.		
Total amount of salvage material collected and disposed of during the year.	T.	Cwt.	Qr.
(a) Paper and Cardboard.	82.	6.	2.
(b) Rags.	6.	8.	0 $\frac{3}{4}$.

The sale of materials salvaged realised £553.8.11d.

RODENT CONTROL.

The coming into operation on the 31st March, 1950 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 was a milestone in rat destruction work. It was a new departure in that the duty for ensuring the destruction of rodents was vested in District Councils. It is pleasant to record power being given to the District Council instead of being taken away from it. These new duties carry responsibilities. Fortunately the District Council had already established an effective rodent destruction service and was in a position to meet these responsibilities. The work which has been carried out by the Rodent Operators has received much appreciation. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries require a yearly return and statistics embodied in this Report in future will be given in the form laid down by the Ministry.

1. PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE.

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
		Number of properties in Local Authority's Area.			Analysis of Column (iv)		
TYPE OF PROPERTY	in which infestation was				Number infected by		
	Total	Notified by Occupier	Other wise dis- covered	Recorded Total of (ii) & (iii)	Rats*		Mice only
					Major	Minor	
LOCAL AUTHORITY'S PROPERTY.	17	-	12	12	6	6	-
DWELLING HOUSE.	6279	123	173	296	54	194	48
BUSINESS PREMISES	520	16	6	22	18	4	-
AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY.	950	14	28	42	40	2	-
TOTAL	7766	153	219	372	118	206	48

2. MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY.

TYPE OF PROPERTY.	No. of proper- ties inspec- ted.	No. of insp- ect- ions made	Number of notices served under Section 4		Number of treatments ^Ø carried out.				Block treat- ments of proper- ties in differ- ent occupancies under Sect. 6 (1) or by informal arrangement.		
					By arrange- ment with Occupier.		Under Section 5 (1)				
			Treat- ments.	Wor- ks.	Rats* only	Mice only	Rats* only	Mice only	No. of Bl- ocks	Sur- face No. of of man- sep- arate occu- pan- cies.	Associ- ated sewers. No. of man- holes trea- ted.
LOCAL AUTHORITY'S PROPERTY.	17	54	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-
DWELLING HOUSES.	821	1041	-	-	255	45	-	-	10	56	25
BUSINESS PREMISES.	44	91	-	-	19	3	-	-	3	16	-
AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY.	81	116	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	963	1302	1	-	300	48	-	-	13	72	25

* Include under this heading properties infested with both rats and mice.

Ø Excluding treatments included under block treatments.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The following table gives particulars of the work carried out during the year.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions of health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of	
		Inspections.	Written notices.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	21	22	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	104	98	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises).	15	8	-
	140	128	2

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.	
	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)		
(a) Insufficient	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-
	2	1

FOOD INSPECTION.

Particulars of foods condemned during the year are as follows:-

Meat	133 lbs.	Fish	112 lbs.
Bacon	3 "	Flour	42 "
Sugar	5 "	Sauces	3 bottles.
Dried Fruit	50 "	Pickles	12 jars.
Cooked Meat	13½ "	Fruit	11½ lbs.
		Salad Cream	2 jars.

Canned Goods.

Condensed Milk	47 cans.	Soups	29 cans.
Fish	39 "	Vegetables	95 "
Meat, various	25 "	Fruit Juice	5 "
Fruit	50 "	Pudding	1 "
Jams	11 "	Spaghetti & Macaroni.	26 "

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of inspections (including re-inspections).	3,544
Total number of houses and premises inspected.	1,725
Complaints investigated.	183
Written notices and letters sent.	1,194
Food Shop and Food Premises inspections.	289
Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings inspections.	395
Factory inspections.	120
Shops Act inspections.	236
Ice Cream premises inspections.	157
Milk Samples taken.	150
Ice Cream samples taken.	221
Water Samples taken.	123
Rooms, Classrooms etc., disinfected.	53
Nuisances from keeping of animals abated.	3
Nuisances from accumulation of manure abated.	5
Drainage tests of old drainage systems.	44

May I thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their sympathetic understanding and support of the work of the Department. I would also like to thank the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk and other Officers of the Council for the help and co-operation which is always so readily forthcoming.

Once again I express my gratitude to the Members of the Staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal and willing assistance.

Your Medical Officer of Health has pointed out in his Report the high level of health in the District. Those of us who deal with environmental hygiene hope that our work has in some measure contributed towards this happy state of affairs. I can assure the Members of the Council of the devoted interest of the Staff of the Department in playing their part in protecting the health of the community.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

J. H. ELLIS.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.